MUTINY

A PAPER OF ANARCHISTIC IDEAS & ACTIONS

#40 JULY 2009

Free

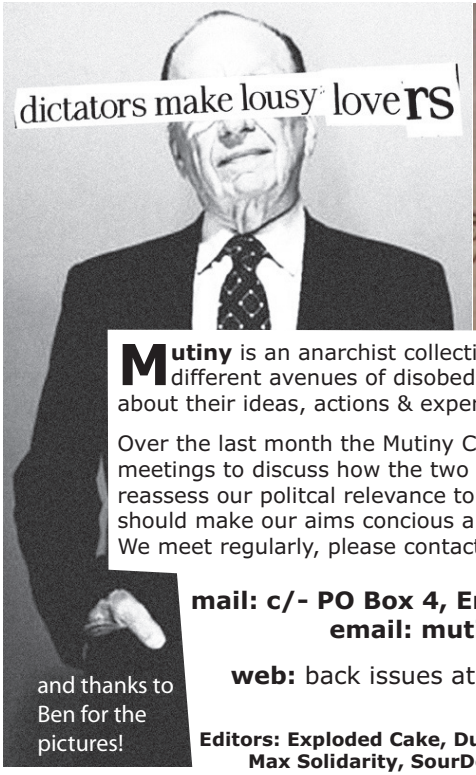
Uprising in Iran

Indigenous resistance in Peru

No 'human rights' in Darwin Supreme Court

Why blockade the Copenhagen climate summit?

Racism, fat hatred & advertising



Mutiny is an anarchist collective based in Sydney. We started this zine to explore different avenues of disobedience & resistance, & to encourage people to write about their ideas, actions & experiences.

Over the last month the Mutiny Collective and the Mutiny Zine Collective had some meetings to discuss how the two collectives have engaged with each other and to reassess our politcal relevance to the current social climate. We also thought we should make our aims concious and explicit. (We also ate loads of great food.) We meet regularly, please contact us on the address below:

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email: mutineers@graffiti.net

web: back issues at **www.jura.org.au/mutiny**

and thanks to Ben for the pictures!

Editors: Exploded Cake, Dumpstered Twin, Mambutu Nizwa, Max Solidarity, SourDough, Graf Cat, Princess Mob

(The mutiny zine collective does not necessarily agree with all the opinions of contributors. Contributors do not necessarily agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective. The mutiny collective doesn't agree with all the opinions of the mutiny collective.)

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News Briefs

Vicenza, Italy

Several thousand protesters converged on the Northern city of Vicenza to protest the planned expansion of the Dal Molin U.S. military base on Saturday 4th July. Demonstrators, who have regularly cut their way through barbed wire guarding the site, cried "No arms here" and "We won't be a rear base for the killing of Afghan kids." Wearing helmets and carrying plastic shields, protesters threw stones and other objects at officers guarding a bridge on the route of the protest. Police fired tear gas canisters and clubbed some demonstrators. The protest kicked off resistance to the G8 Summit being held in Italy. The 500-million-dollar expansion plan would make the US military base one of the biggest in Europe, raising the number of active duty personnel in Vicenza to 5,000 from about 2,900 already stationed there. The staunchly pro-American conservative administration of Premier Silvio Berlusconi has pushed ahead with the expansion.

Nearly 40 arrested at anti-G8 protests in Rome

Police arrested 38 activists on Tuesday July 6 during clashes at protests in Rome against this week's Group of Eight summit in central Italy. Protesters set fire to garbage bins and tires near one of the capital's universities. Of 36 people taken in for questioning from that rally, 11 were detained on various charges, including a citizen each from France, Poland and Germany. As night fell, some fifty demonstrators blocked tracks at Rome's main train station, hurling stones at police in anti-riot gear. Two protesters, a Spaniard and a German, were arrested as police dispersed the crowd. Hundreds of people faced a heavy police contingent beating drums and holding up banners, including one that read: "The G-8: A new quake for L'Aquila." One protester poured red paint on the cobblestones, shouting that it symbolized the "blood of the workers."

No Border camp, Calais, France

Calais is a major port through which people try to reach Britain. Activists set up a camp along the main motorway from the port out of town, a few minutes from the "Jungle", the makeshift camps where migrants are living. The camp gradually grew to around 1000 people from all over Europe. While organisers had been unsure whether migrants, who already face police persecution, would want to participate in the heavily policed camp, many did choose to engage. One camper

said ‘There had been a suggestion that we should give the migrants “help” in making better structures. The reality was that they made a far superior medical tent on “our” camp than we had originally constructed.’ Twenty people were arrested for handing out copies of a camp newspaper in town. A number of other people were arrested for possession of camping equipment, hoodies and scarves (which had been temporarily banned) or banners. The motorway was blockaded for a short time to draw attention to how trade and goods can flow freely while people are confined. Riot police responded by firing tear gas at the blockaders who retreated back into the campsite. The road remained blocked by police themselves until the night. A meeting at the end of the camp held in five languages (Pashtun, Arabic, English, French and Farsi) released a statement calling for unconditional entry into the UK for all, and end of raids and destruction of the places where migrants are living, access to healthcare, freedom of movement around Calais, no deportations and no new detention centre.

Youth left center attacked by fascists in Salonica before antifascist week across Greece

In the early morning of Sunday 7 July fascists planted a firebomb in Sling, a left-wing youth center in Salonica. It failed to cause injuries or any serious damage. On the same day, the official fascist party (LAOS), which holds a few seats in parliament announced its new policy of “patriotic attack”, promising 5-year employment of all unemployed people “of greek blood”

in blackshirt paramilitary formations. The attack came in the lead-up to a planned week of anti-fascist protest, which will see demonstrations against far-right attacks on immigrants across the country. Last year there were several attacks on anarchist and left centers in Athens that left several political squats seriously burned.

East Turkistan: Uyghur Massacre

In response to racist attacks on Uyghur people by Chinese citizens and genocidal tactics by Chinese authorities, Uyghur students staged a protest in Urumqi on Sunday, July 5th 2009. According to Uyghur eyewitnesses, as many as 800 Uyghur protesters were killed and thousands were injured by the armed Chinese police and security forces. Paramilitary police initially used tear gas to disperse the student protesters then started shooting at them when they refused to leave. According to several Uyghur eyewitnesses, paramilitary forces started to shoot at any Uyghur protester on sight in the evening, chasing them in alleyways, and killed an estimated number of 800 young Uyghurs. However, the Chinese media showed yesterday only some wounded Han Chinese victims and scenes of Uyghurs attacking various vehicles, images that they carefully selected for the world and the Chinese audience to see.

Workers sacked after wildcat strikes: Britain

900 workers were sacked by oil giant Total one week after they called a wildcat strike in a dispute over redundancies. 1,200 contract workers at the Lindsey terminal in Lincolnshire, eastern England, walked out following the sacking of 51 workers, sparking solidarity strikes in many other power stations across the country. After negotiations, some 600+ workers will get their jobs back, but the original dispute over the 51 sacked employees (breaking a previous deal between workers and bosses) was ignored.

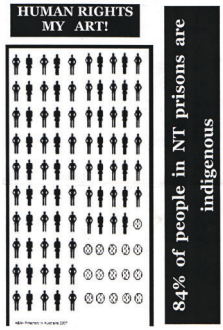
WE WANT:
1. BUKAŁA AND SAWICKI MUST COME BACK TO WORK FOR TESCO DIST.
2. CONTRACTS FOR AGENCY'S STAFF AFTER 3 MONTH WORK FOR TESCO
3. THE 1000's CASES NOR PER DAY MUST BE
CANCELED

Thanks for the letters and copies of *Mutiny*. It's a great zine. Besides me there are a few other people here that like to read it.

One issue I've been meaning to tell you about is our annual picket of the so-called Human Rights Art Award and Exhibition at the (Northern Territory) NT Supreme Court in Darwin. We have picketed the opening night of this event each year since 2004. It's put on by Darwin Community Legal Service (DCLS), which gets its funding from the NT Government. I've enclosed a poster advertising last year's show.

It's insulting and offensive that it's held here in a building where people's human rights are taken away from them when they get locked up. The overwhelming majority of the people who attend the opening are white and middle class so the irony of the venue doesn't occur to them.

The NT does not have a human rights record to be proud of. Indigenous people make up 30% of the NT's population, but at last count they were 83% of the prison population. WA is the only place in Australia that has a worse rate of Aboriginal incarceration than the NT.



People turn up to the opening, even some who might describe themselves as anarchists, perhaps thinking they're supporting human rights. Last year they had some Burmese refugees there to do a performance. Unfortunately it doesn't achieve anything for people oppressed in Burma, or anywhere else. It's a wank!

One person who came outside to object to our protest last year stressed to us that DCLS is cool because it's a 'community' organisation and the boss, Felicity, has dreadlocks! We weren't sure whether she was serious!!

Someone else came out later to give us a hard time. She got right in my face and was quite aggressive – she'd probably had a few drinks inside. She reckoned our protest was 'boring' and that we should go to university and write a thesis or something! Ha ha! Perhaps our protest was indeed boring to a well-off white person who could afford to take human rights for granted. Unlike many of her indigenous sisters she probably wouldn't end up in prison. "If people get locked up, surely it's because they've done something wrong?" was another comment that betrayed the naïveté and ignorance of these people.

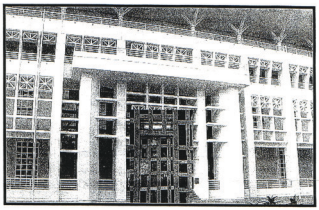
Nevertheless, we hammered home our points, giving people facts such as: Aboriginal women are 52 times more likely to be murdered. We didn't get around to mentioning the

impact of the Federal Intervention (Invasion) in the NT, which of course has only made the situation worse.

In previous years our picket would just get laughed at, fobbed off and trivialised. People wouldn't understand why we were there, perhaps because they didn't WANT to understand. It was obvious to us but many people didn't want their heads pulled out of the sand.

This time we went to more trouble to present our case. I printed about 300 of these various flyers, most of which we gave out to people who rocked up, urging them to boycott the opening. Nobody was deterred from going in, although a few conceded that we had a point. There were only 2 of us there, Rob and I from Anarchist Black Cross, Darwin. But we made an impact. The organisers were pissed off. There have been indications that DCLS might find another venue. We have warned them that if they don't hold it somewhere else, we WILL be back, angrier than ever!

HUMAN RIGHTS MY ART!



CLOSING THE GAP?

OR JUST CLOSING THE CELL DOOR

.....AND THROWING AWAY THE KEY?

NT imprisonment rate over three times the national average

I hope that you will be able to fit in something about this in *Mutiny*.

Shane Stone, by the way, in case you're wondering about the Shane Stone Ball and Chain Award, was an NT Chief Minister in the 1990's. He belonged to the Country Liberal Party (CLP) which is what the Liberals called themselves in the NT. (They're now called the Country Liberals.) They ruled continuously from the 1970's until Territory Labour's shock election in August 2001.

Stone used to play the race card, publicly attacking and criticising Aboriginal leaders, and threatening to 'monster and stomp' the mainly Aboriginal 'long grass' (homeless) people of Darwin.

He thought this would get him re-elected, playing up to the racist prejudice of conservative white voters in the electorally-important northern suburbs of Darwin.
Stone was a mate of John Howard. So much so that after he got the boot from his own party – even they got sick of his own arrogance – he was appointed Federal President of the Liberal Party, and spent a lot of time in Canberra.

There is another Darwin story, that of the proposed Arafura Harbour marina mega-development. Developers want to get rid of an area of mangroves in the middle of Darwin suburbia – Aboriginal land which has until now mostly survived as bushland – and replace it with 800 – 1000 homes, a 2km long dragon boat racing channel and spaces for the super yachts of the rich. It was only announced recently but has run into widespread public opposition at 2 community meetings attended by hundreds of residents overwhelmingly opposed to the proposal. That's for another time.

All the best,

Solidarity

Stuart

Thursday 14.5.09

Iran: The View from the Frontline

Last week, a group of friends and I organised a medical team to help the wounded and injured in the streets. As we sewed up gashes and patched up wounds on the beautiful battered faces of our dear Iranians, we kept asking ourselves, "What have they become? Have they no regard for the life for a fellow human being? For the life of a fellow countryman? For the life of a neighbour? For the life of a cousin? For the life of a brother? For the life of a sister?"

It wasn't long before Basij militiamen took away our identity cards. After reporting us to the university, I was called in by a disciplinary committee and reprimanded. I was told I had put my future career and even my life in jeopardy. I was told to think about the consequences of my actions.

As I left the committee members, the events of the past two weeks fell into place:

The government had a plan. They thought their plan was perfect. They had devised a perfect fraud in which regardless of how people voted, only one name would emerge as the winner: Mahmoud Ahmadinejad.

It was to be the start of an era of unopposed rule.

By creating the appearance of a free and open atmosphere, by creating hope of change, people would turnout in high numbers. A high turnout at the ballot boxes would give them an aura of legitimacy in the eyes of the world. It would give Ahmadinejad a mandate.

But they made a fatal miscalculation; they underestimated the people.

When the results were announced, nobody in their right mind believed them. Even the most optimistic of Ahmadinejad supporters didn't believe he could win by such a margin.

This prompted widespread unrest. For the first time in the history of the Islamic Republic the ruling establishment had to contend with masses in the streets. These masses had not been dragged there by intimidation or by promise of a reward. For the first time the masses were not chanting pro-government slogans.

This was something entirely new; it was a nation rising up in defiance of all the tricks the government has been pulling over the years.

Despite their miscalculation, the supreme leader and the revolutionary guard elites were not ready to make any concessions; they knew too well. Even a single step back would have been a starting point from where things would cascade down to the eventual breakdown of their perfect autocracy.

So they took a firm stand against the very people who had brought them to power 30 years ago. History will be the judge but I believe that this was their second and most fatal miscalculation. You can never put out a fire by beating it, the flames may wane but underneath the ashes will go on burning. Wheels have been set in motion. A vast movement has started to take place. In time, the tide will turn.

In February 1979, during the time of the revolution, the army chiefs decided to prevent bloodshed and a civil war, so they refused to crack down on the demonstrators. They were thanked for this by swift executions that took place as soon as the revolutionaries came to power.

Sepah, or the Revolutionary Guard, is apparently determined not to go down the same path.

The decision of the current government to brutally crack down on the protesters and demonstrators led to the massacre of June 20, 2009, a day that will go down in history as the Black Saturday of the Islamic Republic. Thirty years ago, 17 Shahrivar 1357 [September 8, 1978], the Pahlavi Regime made the same fatal mistake. That Black Friday was the turning point from which the Pahlavi Regime never recovered.

We had hoped for a swift and decisive victory, first in the election and then through our defiance, but our high hopes were crushed with bullets, batons and tear gas. Now the mood is that of defeat, anguish and despair.

Fear has crept in and taken hold. Everybody now speaks in whispers. We are depressed and hopeless.

Perhaps the main reason everyone feels so down is that before the election we had such high hopes. We flew too high and then fell down or rather were brought down by Basij and anti-riot police.

This struggle has had its toll on us all. I have never seen so many people grieving. This is a social malaise. At the personal level, each of us still feels robbed of our vote, our freedom, our friends, our brothers and our sisters.

We are disillusioned, battered and betrayed. Many are talking about leaving the country. Many young souls are looking for the first exit. Emigration perhaps. A mass exodus may be under way.

In the past few days, I have been feeling down and depressed. I had a sense that all was lost, and the frequent rains, which are extremely unusual for this time of year, added to the sense of melancholy overcoming me. My uncle, who experienced the revolution, told me however, "Evolution takes time. This was just a start; in time things will change."

I hope so.

Politics and power are dirty things, much more so than depicted by Romain Gary in "L'Homme a la colombe." Even so, the protagonist, also a young soul, emerges victorious. We are sacrificing ourselves to make a statement, which the corrupt politicians ignore and the mass media manipulates. But people, generation after generation, pass this on from heart to heart as a slogan for integrity, bravery and freedom.

Maybe this will be our legacy. Maybe years from now, we will recount the stories of these days to the generation after us as the turning point that made all the difference, if not in our lives, perhaps at least in theirs.

from

http://tehranbureau.com/frontline/

COPENHAGEN CLIMATE SUMMIT
A CALL TO ACTION

We are Australian climate justice activists; involved in a wide range of networks, from community climate groups, to networks of coal-dependent communities, to student networks and anti-capitalist ones. We don't claim to represent 'our' movement: but we have thought deeply about the issues at stake. We hope to open up avenues of communication and solidarity with people from all over the world.

We are writing to, in a small way, contribute to discussion at the June 20th organising meeting. A blockade of the Copenhagen climate summit would be inspiring and relevant to our own movements and struggles. We've been thinking about how we can act in solidarity with such an action from here (such as through disrupting the transport of the Australian delegation to Copenhagen) and communicate the story of a blockade with people in Australia. We are also keen to explore the possibility of coordinated global shut-downs of polluting infrastructure in the final days of the COP15 and in the days, weeks and months after.

There have been arguments from some in the Australian climate movement and abroad about how Copenhagen is "the most important meeting ever" or "our last chance to save the planet" and that opposing it is putting "ideology" over science. However, we are deeply concerned about the attempt to de-politicise responses to climate change.

We know from history that states will not grant favours through us asking nicely: the only gains we make will come through struggle. It's hard to list all the ways in which the Copenhagen summit is flawed - from the false solution of emissions trading schemes to the dangers of geo-engineering to the injustice of offsets and the Clean Development Mechanism to an overarching 'green capitalism'... You know the deal. Shutting down the conference will help sabotage these attempts to slow action on climate change and create injustice.

Arguments like these are accessible and relevant to ordinary people as well. Climate change is related to people's daily lives: through false solutions imposed by governments, connections to issues like public transport, health and so on.

A blockade could resonate widely; sparking off a cycle of struggles, and feeding into those that are already going on. A serious disruption of the COP15 meeting could assist in de-legitimising emissions trading: also the dominant scheme in Australia, a proposal hundreds of community-based climate action collectives are rejecting outright and trying to prevent its passage through Australian Parliament. Similarly, these struggles are an opportunity to legitimise action that enables, rather than disables, the real solutions to climate change.

A blockade in Copenhagen would help show that climate change is a social issue, linked to flows of capital; not a technical problem that can only be solved by states. It would be an incredible step forward for us all.

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Indigenous Amazonian Communities Clash with Peruvian Police

At least 40 people are dead and more than 100 wounded after Amazon tribes clashed with Peruvian police in escalating protests against the government's push to encourage foreign energy, agricultural and mining investment in the rain forest. Among the people killed were nine of the 38 police taken hostage at an oil-pumping station operated by state-owned PetroPeru. Police forcibly re-opened a regional highway that thousands of Amazon Indian protesters had blocked for days.

Indigenous groups in Peru want the government to revoke a series of laws that President Alan Garcia signed last year using special powers Congress gave him to implement a free-trade pact with the United States.

Tribes say Garcia went too far and signed laws that undermine their control over land and natural resources. They fear a massive wave of development in the Amazon jungle, which is one of the most biologically diverse places on Earth.

Below are the most contentious rules and points of protest:

- *Legislative Decree 1090 frees up some 111 million acres (45 million hectares), or roughly 60 percent of Peru's jungles, for potential development.*
- *Legislative Decree 1064 allows companies with concessions to get changes in zoning permits directly from Peru's central government, giving them a way to extract resources without having to win the approval of local communities.*
- *Legislative Decree 1020 encourages the private ownership of agricultural lands by offering loans to individuals with relatively large farms. Protesters fear it will lead to communal land holdings being broken up into individually owned plots and push consolidation.*
- *Law 29833 creates new public agencies to oversee water management and distribution. Small farmers fear the changes will drive up costs, reduce their access to water while giving more of it to corporate growers, and eventually lead to the privatisation of the water agencies.*

See www.amazonwatch.org for up to date info.

International Libertarian Declaration of Solidarity with the Struggle of the Amazonian Peoples of Peru

The following statement is an international libertarian solidarity initiative with the indigenous and Amazonian peoples of Peru, in their struggle for the defence of their lands and their ancestral culture. These lands and this culture are being violated and threatened by the Peruvian government in alliance with Imperialism, the multinationals and the Right (mainly the APRA - Alianza Popular Revolucionaria Americana, Unidad Nacional and Fujimorism), through unconstitutional Executive Orders, in the context of Peru's signing of the NAFTA agreement with the USA.

The Unión Socialista Libertaria calls on anarchist, libertarian and other similar organisations throughout the world to sign this document, adopt it as their own and publicise its contents with the aim of establishing a clear libertarian, militant position on what is taking place in Peru. We thus ask our libertarian comrades to organise mobilisations and demonstrations outside Peruvian embassies in every country, in coordination with other sectors in struggle, in order to denounce the actions of the State and the multinationals in this country.

We have faith in the solidarity that typifies us as libertarian revolutionaries, that we can make common cause with our indigenous brothers and let them know they are not alone, that their struggles are our struggles, until such times as we can make a true society of full freedom, autonomy and human progress, without exploited or exploiters.

Solidarity with the Struggle of the Amazonian Peoples of Peru!

The Amazonian and indigenous communities of the Peruvian jungle (especially in Loreto, San Martín, Amazonas, Ucayali, Huánuco, Cuzco and Madre de Dios) are once again sounding their war drums of struggle and resistance against the onslaught of the neoliberal economic model supported by the Peruvian government (with the Aprista party at its head). They have launched a call to popular rebellion through an Indefinite Popular General Strike which has been going on with mass participation since 9th April this year. They have thus been on the war foot now for over 50 days, a clear example of their valour, their organisation and their heroism.

This intense process of indigenous and

Amazonian struggle has come about because the Aprista government has recommenced a campaign of stealing and selling off to the best multinational offer, lands which tradition and history have placed in the hands of all the communities (Wajún-Wampis, Kichuas, Arabelas, Huaronis, Pananujuris, Achuar, Murunahus, or Chitonahuas, Cacataibos, Matsés, Candoshis, Shawis, Cocama-Cocamilla, Machiguengas, Yines, Asháninkas, Yaneshas and others, including the "uncontacted" peoples), who today are demanding their right to exist and to resist.

The role of the Peruvian State

The Fujimori Constitution of 1993 opened the way for dispossession and plundering of indigenous communities by successive governments, opening the door to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). It is clear that work has already begun to suffocate and isolate the communities, for the greed of the multinationals in gaining concessions for oil, gas, mining, tourism and logging in areas traditionally belonging to the peoples living there.

In other words, it paved the way for the State to declare the lands of the native peoples "negotiable, in accordance with the market economy".

As libertarian communists, we declare that the native communities' right to free self-determination is the exercising of popular power, as it is based on communitarian principles, the utilisation and collective use of natural resources, and on those forms of work and collective benefit that they have traditionally preserved in the Amazon, home to 31 of the 114 world ecosystems, 95% of the country's forests and an important potential water and water-powered energy resource.

The struggle of the indigenous people of the Abya Yala

In the context of the Indigenous Popular General Strike, there was an important meeting of native Andean communities in one of Peru's southern regions, Puno. This encounter was called the 4th Continental Summit of the Indigenous Peoples and Nations of the Abya Yala and came to a conclusion Sunday last, 31st May), with a unanimous agreement to respect the earth and its natural resources for the benefit of human beings, a strong rejection of the privatisation of water, the presence of multinational corporations and the neoliberal economic model.

All of this was included in the "Declaration of Mama Quta Titikaka" (Lake Titicaca, on the Peruvian-Bolivian border), in which there was agreement to mobilise the various social and indigenous organisations in June, in defence of the Amazonian peoples, as was a call for marches and protests outside Peruvian embassies in every country.

It is important in itself to emphasise the nature of this indigenous summit, which is essentially self-managed. In its Concluding Recommendations, it called for "the construction of Plurinational Peoples' Communities, based on self-government and the free determination of every people".

Likewise, it denounced the efforts of the official press which is dedicated to misinforming, misrepresenting or hiding the just means that are being attacked in the Peruvian jungle, in collusion with the current neo-liberal government and its leaders - Alan García; the vice-president and retired admiral responsible for the prison massacres during the first Aprista government of the 1980s, Luis Giampietri; the prime minister, Yehude Simon, previously a left-wing leader who had even been imprisoned for his beliefs and who is now the faithful guardian of the Aprista reaction.

It is clear to see that for the bourgeoisie that controls the State under imperialist orders, the path lies through the dispossession of the communities. It is at the same time a plan to destroy their type of social organisation and the relationship that links them to their land, a relationship that in essence clashes with the Western understanding of property and is therefore a brake on the voracity of multinational Capital which is trying to take root in these zones, usurping them in alliance with the State and turning them into fiefdoms in order to guarantee the exploiters' prosperity and domination.

The highest representative of the communities in struggle, Alberto Pizango, has been accused of "endangering the common security and damaging public services" together with other indigenous leaders, Marcial Mudarra, brothers Saúl and Servando Puerta, Daniel Marzano and Teresita Antazu. Pizango has also been charged with "rebellion, sedition and other offences" and for "disturbing the peace".

This series of charges and in general the judicial and political repression is part of the State's efforts to criminalise all popular protest and repress just social demands, negatively influencing public opinion by presenting our indigenous brothers and sisters of Peru as "mere vandals or savages, ignorant of the progress that globalisation brings".

The use of direct action should be used in order to expel the multinationals from their lands. This is necessary in order to protect the integrity and sustainability of the region's habitat and ecosystem – which is one of the "lungs" of the planet. There needs to be active self-defence of their lands, which must be restored to their original condition.

We thus believe that true, active solidarity with the indigenous and Amazonian peoples' struggle will take the form of popular protest (agitation, propaganda, union-led strikes and popular strikes, direct action, etc.), to be incorporated into a general platform of struggle based on that of the native peoples.

Support the just protest of the Indigenous and Amazonian peoples

As libertarian communists who expect nothing from the State (other than its destruction), we sympathise with the struggle of the native peoples as an immediate part of a larger project for the liberation of all exploited people, and thus part of a wider strategy or maximum programme of social revolution.

For this reason, we should support demands which in the short term serve to improve living conditions and to enhance their social, political and economic organisation with the aim of facing up to the exploiter State and destroying it from within, building those kernels of popular power which will bring down the giant with the feet of clay that is Capitalism, mortally wounded at a global level by a global crisis from which it cannot recover if, as we want, it is the bourgeoisie that has to pay and not the workers.

We thus support the struggle of the Amazonian people and their various communities to seek immediate solutions, and we join the call to demand:

- Repeal of all laws that damage or violate the interests of Native and Rural Communities: repeal of Law No.29317, the Forestry & Wildlife law, which is the product of a forced and partial modification of Executive Order No.1090 (the "Jungle Law") and the related orders 1089, 1064 and 1020. In other words, the 99 Orders that were imposed on the people without any consultation.
- Respect for the autonomy and self-determination of the native communities and their active political participation in the making of decisions. The final decision of whether or not to approve legal regulations or contracts for concessions must be made by means of direct-democratic mechanisms (popular assemblies, referendums, etc.).
- Benefits and facilities so that native communities or peoples can develop their productive, commercial and industrial activities, with the prospect of direct control over these processes by the people themselves, based on the principles of self-management and socialisation.
- Benefits and facilities for the commencement and promotion of education and culture within the communities (by them and for them). More schools and qualified teachers to promote the education of native students. In other words, the development of a rational, high-quality educational system without those competitive, voracious tendencies that the world capitalist market demands.
- Greater benefit from oil and gas exploration and extraction to devolve to the native peoples, together with the building of hospitals, roads and all the necessary infrastructure, provided it is approved by the people themselves, managed by the communities themselves through mechanism giving them full control over their administration.
- An immediate cessation of the campaign of criminalising protest that the Aprista government and the Peruvian Right has embarked on, together with an end to the harassment of social activists and the other psychological means diverting attention from the country's social problems. Internationalist solidarity with the struggle of the Amazonian peoples in Peru!

Stop the criminalisation of protest; immediate release for those arrested in the struggle!
Long live the heroic struggles of the indigenous peoples of the Abya Yala!
We are all Amazonians!
Long live those who struggle!

1. Unión Socialista Libertaria (Lima, Peru)
2. Red Libertaria Popular Mateo Kramer (Colombia)
3. Periódico Barrikada (Uruguay)
4. Convergencia Anarquista Específica (Chile)
5. Corriente Acción Libertaria (Chile)
6. Huancayo Rebelde (Huancayo, Peru)
7. Centro de Estudios Sociales Manuel González Prada (Huancayo, Peru)
8. Columna Libertaria Joaquín Penina (Argentina)
9. Organisation Communiste Libertaire (France)
10. Asociación Obrera de Canarias (Spain)
11. Frente de Estudiantes Libertarios (Chile)

Review

The Gruen Transfer *(tv show)*

The ABC chose to not air an ad during their Pitch segment of The Gruen Transfer show based on it's offensiveness. The ad was made by a advertising agency (not deserving a mention), who was given the brief of making an ad "to make plus-size Australian's feel better about it". The ad as well as the Gruen Transfer panel discussion can be found at www.antiprejudicead.net. What follows is a discussion of that ad by us.

Dumpstered Twin:

It was an interesting discussion, though the message is lost due to the impact of the "jokes". Although I agree that those jokes are more common where people are less guarded with their racism, it just seems to add to it in order to raise the issue of discrimination for being fat. Especially since it's in the realm of TV (and an ad at that), it just positions the viewers to go "well, im not racist", and just doesn't allow anyone to actively challenge themselves.

I also think being fat is slightly different to race.Yes, its target audience is more the liberal white person who would be easily shocked, and who has never had to experience it themselves.

The person who made the ad also had this idea that racists were dumb, and their racism was straightforward - but that's only one kind of racist. In my opinion, a lot of racism is more subtle, and paternalistic.

In a way, since the ad was in black and white - it almost positions itself in reference to the past - from a present where those types of racism don't exist anymore.

AngelaDavisJnrJnr:

I agree, the person who made the ad, who also discriminates against fat people, thinks that racists are dumb. Truth of the matter, he's really trying to say the politically correct thing to say - 'it's stupid to be racist'.

The jokes made in the ads are not shallow one dimensional jokes, like "oh that man looks like a balloon". They were more than silly jokes. They were hitting at things that are really atrocious and sensitive, they were oppressive jokes.

For me the ad was made by people who were never affected by deep oppressive discrimination, that being upset by these jokes mean "oh you're too serious and like political!" Where are the jokes about white men? About the rich? About the Christians? And is discrimination limited to jokes?

"Discrimination comes in all shapes and sizes" Double meaning? Or is it really saying that "All types of people can & do discriminate so what's the big deal?"

We're not putting this ad in the context of the competitive, back-stabbing, malicious, cut-throat advertising industry, a separate world, so unlike our own. There is no social responsibility in his brief or his job description. That's the job of the broadcasting censorship body and ABC. For him, it's to push the limits, and try and get away with it. Shock always works because shock stays in the minds for a very long time.

So did he get the reaction he set out to get? YES, did he intentionally do this? YES. Is the ad agency remembered? Oh YES! Will he get a pat on the back? YES! and more! Does he care about the effects this ad has had? YES only if it's self-serving, forget everything else. Did he make a positive change, no matter how small, in society against discrimination, fat people, Jews, women, coloured people, homosexuals? NO, he put in another nail.

MurrayDarling:

After seeing the ad for the first time yesterday and watching a bit of the panel debate about it, I had a couple of thoughts:

(1) the ad is trying to provoke people into recognising their prejudices rather than pointing the finger at other people's bigotry; and

(2) the ad doesn't achieve what it intends.

My feeling is, bigotry has become increasingly subtle and sophisticated, which is part of the reason why people don't recognise their own prejudices. We can all identify the overt bigotry of earlier eras, when black people weren't allowed to sit on buses with white people, when women didn't have the vote, when it was criminally punishable to be gay. Today's bigotry is more covert and often prefaced by the obligatory "I'm not a bigot, but..." Bigotry of any kind is based on generalising assumptions about the restricted abilities and rights of social groups, demographics, or communities.

The problem with the ad, for me, is that it offers really obvious examples of bigotry. It also voices those examples, a tactic which runs the risk of giving bigotry a new forum in which to be heard. And it offers those examples without explaining why they are bigoted, or on what basis they might be wrong. There is no explanation or justification.

The ad finishes with the words, "FAT PRIDE". Which makes me wonder: how are larger people meant to feel any sense of pride after the images we've seen? It's one thing to expose the foibles of bigots, another to raise the self-esteem of a marginalised people. This ad isn't really aimed at large people, of course; it's aimed at bigots and is daring them to realise that large people deserve to be treated with respect. But, again, it says nothing as to how bigotry, especially subtle, sophisticated examples of bigotry, is disrespectful or why respect is important.

In this issue:

A letter from Darwin about protests against the Human Rights art exhibition inappropriately held every year in the Northern Territory Supreme Court

An account from a student protester in Iran

Call for solidarity with the Indigenous uprising in Peru

Radical environmentalists argue that demonstrators should blockade the Copenhagen Climate Summit

A review of The Gruen Transfer

News from anti-G8 protests in Italy, No Borders camp in France, anti-fascist week in Greece, minority massacred in China, and workers strike at power stations in Britain

Upcoming Events:
Black Rose Community Meeting
Saturday 26 July, 2pm
Followed at 6pm by a screening of They Live, in which a drifter discovers a pair of sunglasses that allow him to wake up to the fact that aliens have taken over the Earth.

Black & Re(a)d - Radical Reading Group
Sunday 16 August, 2pm
Held at Black Rose on the third Sunday of every month. The readings – a selection of articles from autonomous revolutionary left groups who have reflected on their organising with other groups and communities – will be posted soon at http://blackandread.wordpress.com

Jura Raffle
Jura books needs money and is running a raffle with fabulous prizes. Check jura.org.au for more details.

Black Rose Anarchist Library
22 Enmore Rd, Newtown
blackrosebooks.org

Jura Books
440 Parramatta Rd, Petersham